Examiner's

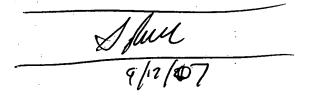
Amendment

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 15-16, 25-26, and 35-36. Please amend claims 12, 22, and 32. The

claims are as follows:

1-11 (Canceled)



APPROVED 1

12. (Currently amended) A method for hyperlinking a main file with N target files, said main file and said N target files being stored in a computer readable medium of a computer system, said N at least [[1]] $\underline{2}$, said main file having a primary filename of a form F.E, said F representing a name component of the primary filename, said E representing an extension component of the primary filename, said N target files denoted as $T_1, T_2, ..., T_N$ having an associated N target file addresses respectively denoted as $A_1, A_2, ..., A_N$, said method comprising:

hyperlinking the primary filename with the N target file addresses to form a composite filename having a form of F(A). E, said A representing A_1 , A_2 , ..., A_N , said symbol (between said F and said A denoting a first control character that separates said F and said A, said symbol) between said A and said E denoting a second control character that separates said A and said E, said second control character differing from the first control character, wherein A is represented in a form of $A_1 \{A_2\}$... $\{A_N$, and wherein said symbol $\{$ denotes a third control character that separates A_{n-1} and A_n for n=2, ..., N, and wherein the third control character differs from both the first control character and the second control character; and

storing the composite filename in said computer readable medium,

said method further comprising determining whether corresponding path portions of two consecutive target file addresses A_i and A_{i+1} is a common path, wherein i is selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, ..., and N-1, and if said determining determines that said corresponding path portions is a common path then:

inserting a fourth control character denoted by a symbol} at the end of the common path of A_i , wherein the fourth control character differs from the first control character, the second control character, and the third control character; and removing the common path from A_{i+1} .

- 13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the target file T_i is a source file of the main file such that A_i is a source file address of the source file T_i , and wherein i is selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, ..., and N.
- 14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the source file address A_i is a Universal Resource Locator (URL) of an Internet web page.

15-16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, said method further comprising specifying predetermined character strings and associated substitute characters; and for n=1, 2, ..., N:

identifying in A_n at least one character string of said predetermined character strings; and replacing in A_n each identified character string with its associated substitute character.

- 18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein an identified character string consists of one character.
- 19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein an identified character string consists of at least two characters.
- 20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, said method further comprising:

 decoding the composite filename, by parsing the composite filename, to extract from the composite filename a target file address A_i of the N target file addresses, wherein i is selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, ..., and N; and accessing the target file T_i at the target file address A_i.
- 21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, said method further comprising: analyzing the target file address A_i to determine a file type of the target file T_i; and launching an application that is associated to the file type of the target file T_i.
- 22. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising a computer system, said computer system comprising a computer readable medium, said computer readable medium comprising software adapted to be executed by the computer system to implement a method for hyperlinking a main

file with N target files, said main file and said N target files being stored in the computer system, said N at least [[1]] 2, said main file having a primary filename of a form F.E, said F representing a name component of the primary filename, said E representing an extension component of the primary filename, said N target files denoted as T₁, T₂, ..., T_N having an associated N target file addresses respectively denoted as A₁, A₂, ..., A_N, said method comprising:

hyperlinking the primary filename with the N target file addresses to form a composite filename having a form of F(A). E, said A representing A_1 , A_2 , ..., A_N , said symbol (between said F and said A denoting a first control character that separates said F and said A, said symbol) between said A and said E denoting a second control character that separates said A and said E, said second control character differing from the first control character, wherein A is represented in a form of $A_1 \{A_2\}$... $\{A_N$, and wherein said symbol $\{$ denotes a third control character that separates A_{n-1} and A_n for n=2, ..., N, and wherein the third control character differs from both the first control character and the second control character; and

storing the composite filename in said computer readable medium,

said method further comprising determining whether corresponding path portions of two consecutive target file addresses A_i and A_{i+1} is a common path, wherein i is selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, ..., and N-1, and if said determining determines that said corresponding path portions is a common path then:

inserting a fourth control character denoted by a symbol} at the end of the common path of A_i , wherein the fourth control character differs from the first control character, the second control character, and the third control character; and removing the common path from A_{i+1} .

10/533,597

- 23. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the target file T_i is a source file of the main file such that A_i is a source file address of the source file T_i , and wherein i is selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, ..., and N.
- 24. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the source file address A_i is a Universal Resource Locator (URL) of an Internet web page.

25-26 (Canceled)

- 27. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22, said method further comprising specifying predetermined character strings and associated substitute characters; and for n=1, 2, ..., N: identifying in A_n at least one character string of said predetermined character strings; and replacing in A_n each identified character string with its associated substitute character.
- 28. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein an identified character string consists of one character.
- 29. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein an identified character string consists of at least two characters.
- 30. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22, said method further comprising:

decoding the composite filename, by parsing the composite filename, to extract from the composite filename a target file address A_i of the N target file addresses, wherein i is selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, ..., and N; and

accessing the target file T_i at the target file address A_i.

- 31. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 30, said method further comprising:

 analyzing the target file address A_i to determine a file type of the target file T_i; and
 launching an application that is associated to the file type of the target file T_i.
- 32. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium comprising software adapted to be executed by a computer system to implement a method for hyperlinking a main file with N target files, said main file and said N target files being stored in the computer system, said N at least [[1]] 2, said main file having a primary filename of a form F.E, said F representing a name component of the primary filename, said E representing an extension component of the primary filename, said N target files denoted as T₁, T₂, ..., T_N having an associated N target file addresses respectively denoted as A₁, A₂, ..., A_N, said method comprising:

hyperlinking the primary filename with the N target file addresses to form a composite filename having a form of F(A). E, said A representing A_1 , A_2 , ..., A_N , said symbol (between said F and said A denoting a first control character that separates said F and said A, said symbol) between said A and said E denoting a second control character that separates said A and said E, said second control character differing from the first control character, wherein A is represented in a form of $A_1\{A_2\}$... $\{A_N$, and wherein said symbol $\{A_1\}$ denotes a third control character that

separates A_{n-1} and A_n for n=2, ..., N, and wherein the third control character differs from both the first control character and the second control character; and

storing the composite filename in said computer readable medium,

said method further comprising determining whether corresponding path portions of two consecutive target file addresses A_i and A_{i+1} is a common path, wherein i is selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, ..., and N-1, and if said determining determines that said corresponding path portions is a common path then:

inserting a fourth control character denoted by a symbol} at the end of the common path of A_i , wherein the fourth control character differs from the first control character, the second control character, and the third control character; and removing the common path from A_{i+1} .

- 33. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 32, wherein the target file T_i is a source file of the main file such that A_i is a source file address of the source file T_i , and wherein i is selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, ..., and N.
- 34. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein the source file address A_i is a Universal Resource Locator (URL) of an Internet web page.

35-36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 32, said method further comprising specifying predetermined character strings and associated substitute characters; and for n=1, 2, ..., N:

identifying in A_n at least one character string of said predetermined character strings; and replacing in A_n each identified character string with its associated substitute character.

- 38. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 37, wherein an identified character string consists of one character.
- 39. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 37, wherein an identified character string consists of at least two characters.
- 40. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 32, said method further comprising:

decoding the composite filename, by parsing the composite filename, to extract from the composite filename a target file address A_i of the N target file addresses, wherein i is selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, ..., and N; and

accessing the target file T_i at the target file address A_i .

41. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 40, said method further comprising:

analyzing the target file address Ai to determine a file type of the target file Ti; and

launching an application that is associated to the file type of the target file $T_{\rm i}$.